



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Virtual via Zoom Meeting
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 4:36 PM

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael McDonald, Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, and Chair Amanda Lick

EXCUSED: Vice Chair Ami Van Antwerp

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Farris moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED**, with the addition of 7B. Consumer's Energy Easement Request. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner McDonald moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2021**.
Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

5. COMMUNICATIONS

Director Maisner summarized list of budgeted projects from 2013-2021. Projects were completed with funds from grants, contributions from the general fund, and local matches from the park millage.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Resolution of Declaration and Notice – LWCF Gateway Path and Restroom Grant

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840, in said Township on the 14th day of September, 2021 at 6 pm, Local Time.

PRESENT: Michael McDonald, Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, and Amanda Lick

ABSENT: Ami Van Antwerp

The following resolution of Declaration and Notice was offered by Commissioner McDonald and supported by Commissioner Farris.

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Meridian, governing body, hereinafter called Meridian Township, being the owner of all the property described as Central Park:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: A parcel of land located within the East $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 16 and the West $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Section 15, Meridian Township, T4N, RI W, Ingham County, Michigan, Commencing at the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ Corner of said Section 16, thence North along the East line of said Section 495.07 ft. to the intersection of the North right of way line of Central Park Drive and the East Section line and the point of beginning, thence North continuing along said east line 825.0 ft., thence West 1320.20 ft. to the Centerline of Okemos Road, thence North along said centerline 1648.53 ft.; to the South Right-of-Way line of Canadian Northern Railroad, thence northeasterly along said Railroad right of way 3258.15 ft. +/- to the intersection of said South Railroad right of way line and the North $\frac{1}{8}$ line of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 15, thence south along said $\frac{1}{8}$ line 645.03 ft., thence S21 $^{\circ}$ 28'30"E 439.73 ft. to the Southwest corner of Nemoke Trails Apartments, thence N68 $^{\circ}$ 31'30"E 164.0 ft., thence N21 $^{\circ}$ 28'30"W 65.0 ft., thence N68 $^{\circ}$ 31'30"E 349.82 ft., thence N32 $^{\circ}$ 16'16"E, 698.38 ft., thence N68 $^{\circ}$ 31'30"E, 352.0 ft. to the North-South line of Section 15, thence N53 $^{\circ}$ 17'58"E 155.98 ft., S21 $^{\circ}$ 02'30"E 159.22 ft., thence S33 $^{\circ}$ 04'04"E 120.32 ft., thence S02 $^{\circ}$ 29'49"E 115 ft. to the Southwest Corner of Meridian Hills Condominiums, thence South 570 ft., thence West 251 ft. to the North-South line of Section 15, thence South along said line 1297.7 ft., thence west 1331.75, thence South 120 ft., thence East 1331.75 ft., which is 60 ft. south of the Center of Section 15, thence South along the North-South line of Section 15, 587.31 ft., thence West 70.56 ft., thence S27 $^{\circ}$ 03'27"W 552.66 ft., thence S61 $^{\circ}$ 55'26"E 362.10 ft., thence South 8.27 ft. to the West right of way line of Marsh Road, thence along said right of way line S27 $^{\circ}$ 04'35"W 1000.27 ft. to the intersection of the West right of way line of Marsh Road and the North right of way line of Central Park Drive, Thence along said North line N70 $^{\circ}$ 11'35"W 1420.59 ft., thence on a curve to the left with a length of 998.49 ft., a radius of 665 ft., with a delta of 87.34 $^{\circ}$ and a chord bearing N65 $^{\circ}$ 05'36"E with a length of 904.58 ft. to the point of beginning; except (Municipal Town Hall) commencing at the South $\frac{1}{4}$ Corner of Section 15, thence N along the N-S section line 986.23 ft., thence west 162.7 ft. to the West right of way line of Marsh Road and the point of beginning, thence N65 $^{\circ}$ 27'30"W 199.73 ft., thence on a curve to the left, with a length of 232.91 ft., having a radius of 150 ft., a delta of 88.96 $^{\circ}$, and a chord bearing S70 $^{\circ}$ 03'33"W with a length of 210.020, thence S25 $^{\circ}$ 34'37"W 355.51 ft. thence N66 $^{\circ}$ 02'28"W 127.01 ft., thence on a curve to the left, with a length of 235.14 ft., having a radius of 150 ft., a delta of 89.82 $^{\circ}$, and a chord bearing S68 $^{\circ}$ 36'03"W with a length of 211.79 ft., thence S23 $^{\circ}$ 04'34"W 36.48 ft. to the North right of way of Central Park

Drive, thence S70°11'35"E 591.78 ft. to the intersection of the West right of way line of Marsh Road and the North right of way line of Central Park Drive, thence N27°43'58"E 640.52' to the point of beginning; also except (Service Center) beginning at the East 1/4 corner of Section 16, thence North along the North- South line 660.14 ft., thence S89°58'36"W 797.65 ft., thence S51°57'03"W 260.39 thence South 496.29 ft. to the E-W Section line, thence East 999.58 ft. to the point of beginning.

Tax ID: #33-02-02-16-400-028

#33-02-02-15-300-028

#33-02-02-15-100-014

Herein after referred to as the Property, attached hereto, located in the Township of Meridian, County of Ingham, Michigan, hereby makes the following declaration to which the Property may be put.

WITNESSETH:

This declaration contained herein is based on the following factual recitals:

Meridian Township developed the Property, in part, through the grant money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

- A. As a condition of the grant by the DNR, Meridian Township has agreed to impose certain restrictions on the developed portion of the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, HEREBY DECLARES THAT THE PORTION OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS THE PROJECT AREA IS AND SHALL BE HELD, TRANSFERRED, SOLD, CONVEYED, LEASED, OCCUPIED AND USED SUBJECT TO THE OBLIGATION HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, ALL OF WHICH SHALL RUN WITH THE LAND, IN PERPETUITY.

THE LANDS INCLUDED IN THIS DEED DEVELOPED BY MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP WITH FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PURSUANT TO PROJECT AGREEMENT LW16-0046 (26-01768), ACCESSIBLE GATEWAY BRIDGE AND RESTROOM DEVELOPMENT, BETWEEN THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND

MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP, EXECUTED ON FEBRUARY 28, 2018. THE PROJECT AGREEMENT DESCRIBES CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE THE LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY AND ITS USE FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP IS PLACING THIS NOTICE ON RECORD AS CONFIRMATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE PROJECT AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE CONSENT OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE CONVEYANCE OF ANY RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY TO ANOTHER ENTITY, OR FOR THE USE OF THE PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN CONSERVATION OR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, Mike McDonald and Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss:

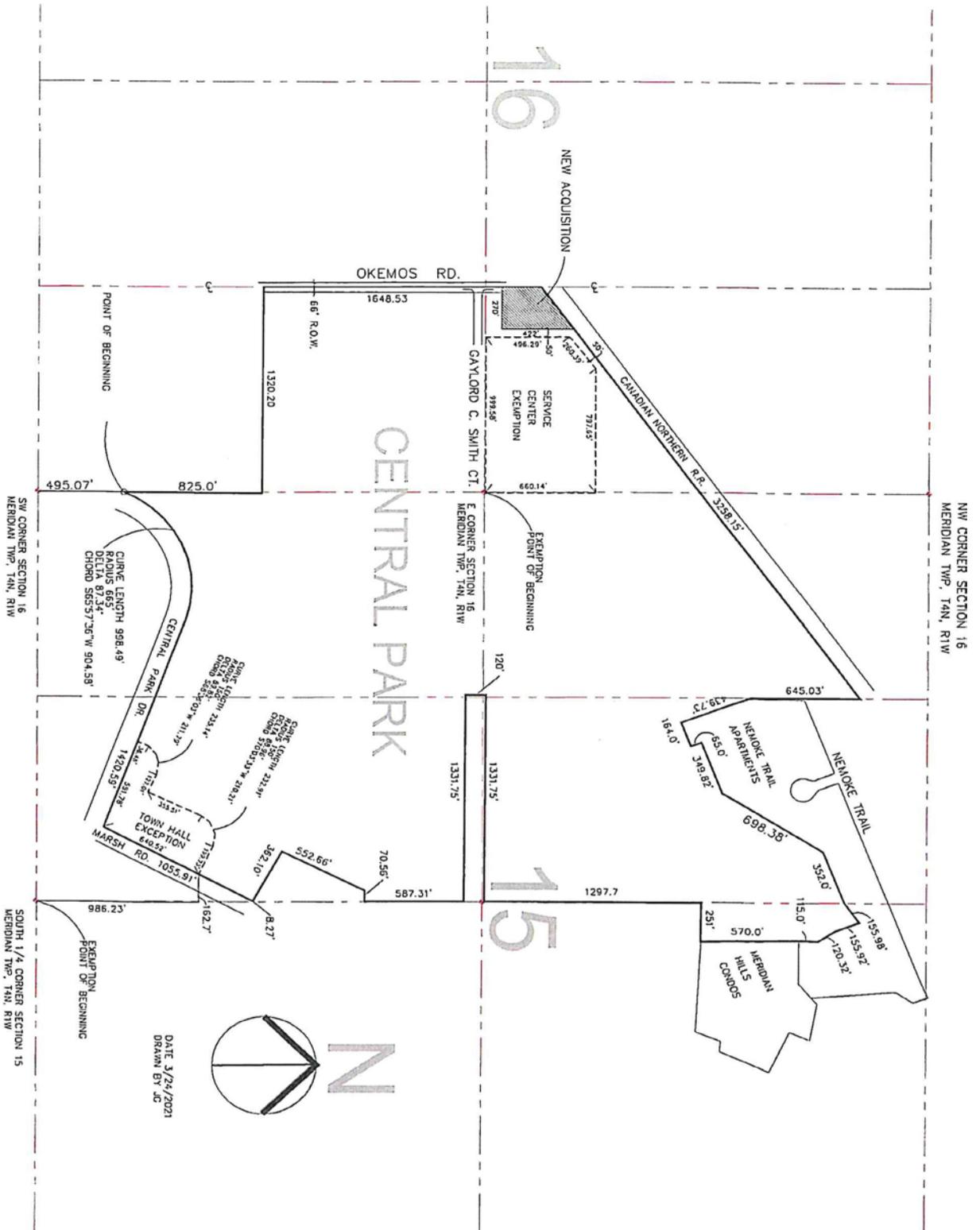
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chair of the Park Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 14th of September, 2021.

Amanda Lick

Amanda Lick, Chair
Park Commission

PROPOSED CENTRAL PARK LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 WITH NEWLY ACQUIRED PARCEL 16-200-011



B. Resolution of Declaration and Notice – MNRTF Central Meridian Trail Connector

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840, in said Township on the 14th day of September 2021 at 5:00pm, Local Time.

PRESENT: Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, Mike McDonald and Amanda Lick

ABSENT: Ami Van Antwerp

The following resolution of Declaration and Notice was offered by Commissioner Stephens and supported by Commissioner McDonald.

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Meridian, governing body, hereinafter called Meridian Township, being the owner of all the property described as Central Park:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: A parcel of land located within the East $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 16 and the West $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Section 15, Meridian Township, T4N, R1 W, Ingham County, Michigan, Commencing at the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ Corner of said Section 16, thence North along the East line of said Section 495.07 ft. to the intersection of the North right of way line of Central Park Drive and the East Section line and the point of beginning, thence North continuing along said east line 825.0 ft., thence West 1320.20 ft. to the Centerline of Okemos Road, thence North along said centerline 1648.53 ft.; to the South Right-of-Way line of Canadian Northern Railroad, thence northeasterly along said Railroad right of way 3258.15 ft.+/- to the intersection of said South Railroad right of way line and the North $\frac{1}{8}$ line of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 15, thence south along said $\frac{1}{8}$ line 645.03 ft., thence S21°28'30"E 439.73 ft. to the Southwest corner of Nemoke Trails Apartments, thence N68°31'30"E 164.0 ft., thence N21°28'30"W 65.0 ft., thence N68°31'30"E 349.82 ft., thence N32°16'16"E, 698.38 ft., thence N68°31'30"E, 352.0 ft. to the North-South line of Section 15, thence N53°17'58"E 155.98 ft., S21°28'30"E 159.22 ft., thence S33°44'04"E 120.32 ft., thence S02°29'49"E 115 ft. to the Southwest Corner of Meridian Hills Condominiums, thence South 570 ft., thence West 251 ft. to the North-South line of Section 15, thence South along said line 1297.7 ft., thence west 1331.75, thence South 120 ft., thence East 1331.75 ft., which is 60 ft. south of the Center of Section 15, thence South along the North-South line of Section 15,

587.31 ft., thence West 70.56 ft., thence S27°03'27"W 552.66 ft., thence S61°55'26"E 362.10 ft., thence South 8.27 ft. to the West right of way line of Marsh Road, thence along said right of way line S27°43'58"W 1000.27 ft. to the intersection of the West right of way

line of Marsh Road and the North right of way line of Central Park Drive, Thence along said North line N70°11'35"W 1420.59 ft., thence on a curve to the left with a length of 998.49 ft., a radius of 665 ft., with a delta of 87.34° and a chord bearing N65°57'36"E with a length of 904.58 ft. to the point of beginning; **except (Municipal Town Hall)** commencing at the South 1,4 Corner of Section 15, thence N along the N-S section line 986.23 ft., thence west 162.7 ft. to the West right of way line of Marsh Road and the point of beginning, thence N65°27'30"W 199.73 ft., thence on a curve to the left, with a length of 232.91 ft., having a radius of 150 ft., a delta of 88.96°, and a chord bearing S70°03'33"W with a length of 210.020, thence S25°34'37"W

355.51 ft. thence N66°29'28"W 127.01 ft., thence on a curve to the left, with a length of 235.14 ft. having a radius of 150 ft., a delta of 89.82°, and a chord bearing S68°36'03"W with a length of 211.79 ft., thence S23°41'34"W 36.48 ft. to the North right of way of Central Park Drive, thence S70°11'35"E

591.78 ft. to the intersection of the West right of way line of Marsh Road and the North right of way line of Central Park Drive,, thence N27°43'58"E 640.52' to the point of beginning; **also except (Service Center)** beginning at the East% corner of Section 16, thence North along the North- South line 660.14 ft., thence S89°58'36"W 797.65 ft., thence S51°57'03"W 260.39 ft., thence South 496.29 ft. to the E-W Section line, thence East 999.58 ft. to the point of beginning.

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Herein after referred to as the Property, attached hereto, located in the Township of Meridian, County of Ingham, Michigan, hereby makes the following declaration to which the Property may be put.

WITNESSETH:

This declaration contained herein is based on the following factual recitals:

- A. Meridian Township developed the Property, in part, through the grant money from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.
- B. As a condition of the grant by the DNR, Meridian Township has agreed to impose certain restrictions on the developed portion of the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, HEREBY DECLARES THAT THE PORTION OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS THE PROJECT AREA AND SHALL BE HELD, TRANSFERRED,

SOLD, CONVEYED, LEASED, OCCUPIED AND USED SUBJECT TO THE OBLIGATION HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, ALL OF WHICH SHALL RUN WITH THE LAND, IN PERPETUITY.

THE LANDS INCLUDED IN THIS DEED DEVELOPED BY MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP WITH FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO PROJECT AGREEMENT TF-16-0087, CENTRAL PARK REGIONAL PATHWAY AND FISHING DOCK DEVELOPMENT, BETWEEN THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP, EXECUTED ON NOVEMBER 22, 2017. THE PROJECT AGREEMENT DESCRIBES CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE THE LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY AND ITS USE FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP IS PLACING THIS NOTICE ON RECORD AS CONFIRMATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE PROJECT AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE CONSENT OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE CONVEYANCE OF ANY RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY TO ANOTHER ENTITY, OR FOR THE USE OF THE PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN CONSERVATION OR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, Mike McDonald, and Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss:

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chair of the Park Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 14th of September, 2021.

Amanda Lick

Amanda Lick, Chair
Park Commission

C. Deer Management Program – Addition of Sander Farm

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, in said Township on the 14th day of September, 2021, at 5:25 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, Mike McDonald, and Amanda Lick

ABSENT: Ami Van Antwerp

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Stephens and supported by Commissioner McDonald.

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Meridian has documented numerous complaints relative to the issue of the over-population of white-tailed deer including: over-grazing of landscape plants, a high number of deer/car collisions, threats to public health, and threats to the ecological health of natural areas; and

WHEREAS a Deer Management Plan has been developed for the purpose of outlining measures for conducting a highly managed, safe and humane managed deer harvest on township-owned properties; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that controlled hunting may help control the overpopulation of white-tailed deer; and

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Meridian has authorized staff to conduct a managed deer harvest on township-owned properties that will occur seven days per week during the regular archery season (October 1, 2021 through January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS the managed deer harvest will utilize qualified, competent, and experienced volunteer hunters; and

WHEREAS the township-owned properties are not open to unauthorized hunting; and

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Meridian will work with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to operate under the Deer Management Assistance Program for the purpose of purchasing a large number of antlerless deer permits; and

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Meridian's Deer Management Program will comply with all State of Michigan rules and hunting regulations; and

WHEREAS the public will be properly notified of the deer harvest through posted signs on the designated hunting properties, township website postings, press releases in the local

newspaper, and letters to owners of properties adjacent to designated hunting properties; and

WHEREAS the majority of the venison from the harvested deer will be distributed to the hungry through local food banks; and

WHEREAS parks and natural areas provide ecological and aesthetic beauty, improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Meridian recognizes the benefits derived from parks and natural areas and appreciates benefits of local wildlife

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN THAT THE SANDER FARM PRESERVED NATURAL AREA BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF APPROVED TOWNSHIP-OWNED LAND FOR THE MANAGED DEER HARVEST PROGRAM.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Mary Farris, Mike McDonald and Amanda Lick
NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss:

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chair of the Park Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 14th of September, 2021.

Amanda Lick

Amanda Lick, Chair
Park Commission

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. COMMUNITY INPUT OPPORTUNITIES – MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Commissioners discussed the results of the Township Board's recent community survey and its use as one of the elements of public input in the 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan Update. Other opportunities include setting up a booth at a Saturday Farmers Market, schedule a community listening session and offering a survey on survey monkey to obtain additional comments. A Work Session was requested to discuss and finalize survey questions.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Current sports Participation:**
 - Youth Soccer: 57 teams/560 participants
 - Flag football: 43 teams/220 participants
 - Williamston Flag Football: 13 teams
 - Bath Flag Football: 4 teams
 - Sporties for Shorties: 147 participants

- **Deer Management:** All systems are “go” for the 2021 Deer Management Archery program with 75 hunters on 41 properties in the Township. The program follows all Michigan Department of Natural Resources rules and regulation and runs from October 1-January 1. The signs have been posted, neighbors alerted, tags purchased, processor is ready, Sportsmen Against Hunger are confirmed and once again funding the processing fees. The Police Department is also preparing for the extended deer cull that will begin on January 2, 2022.

- **Farmers Market:** The Farmers Market continues on Wednesdays from 3:00 – 7:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm through October. The Winter Market will continue outdoors on Saturdays from November through April from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

- **Music at Marketplace on the Green** – Free concerts have been offered on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 9:00 pm from July through September thanks to donations from Orthopedic Rehab Specialists, Fahey, Schultz, Burzych and Rhodes, MABA, and Embassy Transportation. The concerts in October have an amended time of 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The concerts have proven very popular among our older adult population.

- We are working with the Friends of Historic Meridian as they host their **Blue and Gray Event on October 1-3 in the Historical Village** and features a Civil War re-enactment and barn dance. The event is free to the public.

- **Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell** has been doing great work in our parks and land preserves with invasive plant removals, restoration projects and volunteer engagement through the Meridian Conservation Corp program.

- **The Harris Nature Center** has been busy once again with school groups as well as hosting week-long Annie's Big Nature Lesson programs on multiple weeks this fall with over 100 students daily each week.

- The Park Commission along with the Friends of Historic Meridian hosted a **memorial dedication for the late John Grettenberger** at the Historical Village on Saturday, September 18. A bronze plaque and Oak tree were installed in his honor as he and his family were instrumental in the development of the Historical Village.
- **The Nokomis Center Roof replacement** – The Nokomis Board sought bids to re-roof the Nokomis Center and awarded the contract to Jimmerson Roofing. Work will begin in 2-3 weeks.
- **Eagle Scout Candidate, Gryffin Porter** completed his Eagle Scout project of building and installing dog agility equipment in the Large Dog Park.
- **The Meridian Senior Center** continues to offer in-person programs as well as virtual programs keeping our senior population engaged and active.
- **Members of the 55+ Fitness Workout Program** continue to meet each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Central Park Pavilion from 9:00 -10:00 am. There are approximately 35-40 participants each day.
- **An AED unit** has been installed on the restroom building at Towner Road Park at the request of the pickleball players at Towner Road Park and Hillbrook Park. Special thanks to EMS/Training Chief, Bill Priese for his assistance with this project. The AED for Hillbrook Park is not yet installed as we are working with the Water Authority to obtain permission to attach the unit to their building. Users must first call 911 to obtain the code to access the containment box.
- **Okemos Road Parcel Acquisition** – As soon as the DNR provides approval of the property appraisal, we are ready on our end to complete the purchase. The Fire Department has requested use of the structure for a training exercise before the demo work is scheduled. Our hope is to close on the property by the end of October and demo soon after.
- **Halloween at the Market** – we are hosting a Halloween event on Wednesday, October 20 from 3:00 – 7:00 pm with music, market vendors, games and the Great Lakes Ghostbusters Coalition ecto-mobile and characters.
- **Haslett High School is hosting their Homecoming Dance** at Marketplace on the Green on Saturday, October 2.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

10. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Universal Advisory Access Board meeting discussion and suggestion of meeting time change moving forward to encourage more participation. Discussion of scheduling an annual meeting for the board.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, Chair Lick adjourned the meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2021, 4:30 pm, at Meridian Township Service Center.